

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 MOSCOW 14675 141705Z

42

ACTION EUR-12

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FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5227

C O N F I D E N T I A L MOSCOW 14675

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, CSCE, UR, US

SUBJECT: CSCE IMPLEMENTATION: PRESENTATION TO SOVIET MFA

REF: A. MOSCOW 14504; B. STATE 243321

1. I MET WITH KORNIYENKO, ACCOMPANIED BY MFA USA DIVISION OFFICIAL KAPRALOV, AT 1630 OCTOBER 14 ON CSCE. EMPHASIZING THAT WE WERE INTERESTED IN WHAT OUR TWO COUNTRIES COULD DO TOGETHER TO ACHIEVE FURTHER PROGRESS, I WENT OVER THE TEXT OF OUR NON-PAPER (REFTEL A AS AMENDED BY REFTEL B) AND LEFT COPIES WITH HIM. I REMARKED THAT I WAS ACTING UNDER DEPARTMENT INSTRUCTIONS, AND STRESSED WE WISHED TO APPROACH THESE MATTERS IN A CONSTRUCTIVE SPIRIT, WITH A VIEW TO MUTUAL BENEFIT, AND TO WORK TOGETHER WITH THE SOVIETS FOR THE FUTURE.

2. IN REPLY KORNIYENKO WAIVED THE NEED TO REPEAT SOVIET ASSESSMENTS OF CSCE, BUT WENT ON TO CONFIRM THAT THE USSR ATTACHED GREAT IMPORTANCE TO THE CONCLUSION OF THE CONFERENCE, THE WORK THAT WENT INTO IT, AND THE FINAL ACT. AS HAD OFTEN BEEN MENTIONED, HE SAID, OUR BILATERAL CONTACTS HAD PLAYED A POSITIVE ROLE IN THE WORK AND CONCLUSION OF THE CONFERENCE. OUR SITUATIONS AND POSITIONS WERE SOMETIMES
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 MOSCOW 14675 141705Z

DIFFERENT, BUT THIS HAD NOT PREVENTED SUCCESS, AND U. S.-

SOVIET COOPERATION AND AGREEMENT WERE CONSIDERED VERY POSITIVE ELEMENTS. WITH REGARD TO THE RESULTS OF THE CONFERENCE, HE CONTINUED, NEW SPECIFIC MEASURES LINKED TO SPECIFIC PROVISIONS OF THE FINAL ACT WERE NOT TO BE EXPECTED DAILY, BUT THE SOVIET SIDE WAS WORKING ON WHAT STEPS NEEDED TO BE TAKEN, AND WAS CERTAINLY READY TO CONSIDER THE U.S. PROPOSALS AND SEE WHERE IT WAS POSSIBLE TO TAKE CONCRETE MEASURES IN FULFILLMENT OF THE FINAL ACT. IT WAS PERHAPS NO SECRET, KORNIYENKO CONCLUDED, THAT ACCENTS MIGHT BE DIFFERENT, BUT THIS BY NO MEANS CARRIED ANY IMPLICATION THAT THEY WOULD NOT PAY SERIOUS ATTENTION TO OURS, AND HE THOUGHT HE WOULD BE ABLE TO SPEAK MORE CONCRETELY "IN THE NEAREST FUTURE."

3. KORNIYENKO THEN ASKED WHAT HE CALLED A "PROCEDURAL" QUESTION: WAS THE U.S. ENGAGED IN SIMILAR DISCUSSIONS WITH OTHER CONFERENCE PARTICIPANTS, AND NOT ONLY WITH THE SOVIET UNION? I REPLIED THAT WE WOULD BE APPROACHING OTHERS AS WELL AND INTENDED TO HAVE CONSULTATIONS WITH ALL, ALTHOUGH NATURALLY DIFFERENT TOPICS WOULD BE EMPHASIZED IN DIFFERENT CASES.

4. CONCLUDING THE EXCHANGE, I RETURNED TO THE POINT THAT QUESTIONS ADDITIONAL TO THOSE RAISED IN THE PAPER COULD WELL COME UP IN THE FUTURE, AND REITERATED OUR DESIRE FOR CONSTRUCTIVE AND MUTUALLY BENEFICIAL DISCUSSIONS. KORNIYENKO REPLIED THAT THE SOVIET APPROACH WAS THE SAME, AND THAT THEY WERE WORKING FOR MAXIMUM FULL IMPLEMENTATION OF THE FINAL ACT.

5.COMMENT. KORNIYENKO'S QUESTION AS TO WHETHER THE SOVIETS WERE BEING SINGLED OUT FOR A DEMARCHE REFLECTS FAMILIAR SENSITIVITIES, BUT HIS REPLY WAS QUITE CONSTRUCTIVE IN MY VIEW, AND HIS COMMENT THAT HE HOPED TO RETURN TO CSCE ISSUES IN CONCRETE TERMS IN THE NEAR FUTURE SEEMS A GOOD OMEN. IT WILL BE IMPORTANT TO MAINTAIN THE STRESS ON MUTUALITY AND JOINT EFFORT WHICH MARKED THIS INITIAL PRESENTATION, BUT ON THAT ASSUMPTION POST-CSCE DISCUSSIONS WITH THE SOVIETS PROMISE TO DO NO HARM, AND SOME GOOD.
END COMMENT.
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PAGE 03 MOSCOW 14675 141705Z

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